GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3112
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2010
BEEDI WORKERS
Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar;Singh Shri Bhupendra

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the beedi industry is facing stiff competition from the Gutka Industry and is on the verge of collapse, being declared sick thereby adversely affecting the lives of the workers in the country including Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide any packages or alternative employment to the beedi rollers;

(d) whether the Government also proposes to abolish any taxes levied on the beedi industry to revive the same;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the measures taken by the Government for addressing the problems of beedi workers in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): The available data/information do not corroborate any adverse affect on the beedi workers including Madhya Pradesh from the Gutka Industry;

(c): The Ministry of Labour and Employment has initiated action for rehabilitation of the beedi workers by providing them vocational training in certain courses according to the local market needs for viable alternative sources of livelihood;

(d) & (e): No, Madam;

(f): Various welfare facilities in the field of health, education, recreation, housing and social security are being provided to the beedi workers.